



Erlanger Officer  
**Greg Aylor**

ABBIE DARST | PROGRAM COORDINATOR

After a 23-year law enforcement career, Officer Greg Aylor is just as passionate about what he does as he was as a budding 21 year old, fresh from the academy. Aylor served the Elsmere and Campbell County police departments before coming to Erlanger. After two years of retirement, Aylor knew it was time to return to the law enforcement field in some capacity. The position as the health and wellness coordinator for Erlanger was a perfect fit. Aylor is a graduate of Northern Kentucky University and the University of Tennessee’s National Forensics Academy. He and his wife, a fellow officer, have been married for three years.

**We do these presidential motorcades so often, they become mundane and routine,** and we don’t think anything of them. But this particular time we were shutting down the interstate from I-275 to northbound I-75. All of a sudden a large white Lincoln Town Car went down I-275 and cut a sharp right across the grassy median back onto the ramp toward the I-75 northbound lane. I began to pursue the vehicle. I called the motorcade because it already had left the airport with the president, and informed them that we had a rogue vehicle that had run the roadblock.

It was obvious this guy wasn’t going to stop. I pulled beside him to try and get him to pull over. I knew it was imperative to keep him off northbound I-75 where the president’s motorcade was coming through. So I forced him off the roadway and dumped him into the ditch on the side of the interstate. I began ordering him, ‘Out of the car. Out of the car.’ He wasn’t getting out. I drew my gun, ordered him out and approached the vehicle. He’s still not moving, he’s not complying with anything I’m saying. So I took him out of the vehicle, forced him down on the ground, and I had him at gun point. At which time I saw the motorcade pass by.

It became very apparent that he was trying to reach the motorcade and the president. In the vehicle, we found two loaded handguns in the front of the car with extra ammunition. We found an assault rifle in the rear of the vehicle with loaded magazines and 500 additional rounds of ammunition. Through the investigation and co-operation with the secret service and ATF, it was later determined this individual had made statements he wanted to kill a law enforcement officer with an assault rifle. We also later found out he had made two previous threats on the life of George W. Bush as president. Some things we take for granted and think are so mundane, but then something like this happens, and it makes you believe that nothing is routine in this job.

**Being of service and helping people in need,** I think that is the true law enforcement job. Everybody thinks of it as running around catching bad guys. But, if you truly love the profession and want to do it, you have to have the heart of a servant and be service based.

**I went back to school and I finished my degree.** I had boys who were getting ready to go to college, and I wanted them to know the importance of a college education. It’s hard to tell them you need to go and do this if you haven’t finished yours.

**I’ve been very fortunate in my career to learn from a lot of good teachers** and tactical instructors. The greatest part of my job now is I feel like a servant to these younger officers. So many people and officers go through their career eating fast food constantly, then six months after they retire they’re dead or have a heart attack. They don’t have the fortune or ability to enjoy everything they’ve worked their entire career for. Our entire goal here is to help officers as they develop to get them into good habits while they are young.

**You work so many shifts and so many holidays** — you know that coming in, but you miss so much of your kids growing up. So I am starting completely over. I’m remarried; I have a 1 year old. I have a better appreciation of things I missed and things I might not have seen when my other kids were growing up.

**Don’t forget about your family.** The job is one thing, but don’t forget about your family because it’s the most important thing. When you leave this job in 20 years, what are you going to have? Someone else will step in and fill your job. This department was here before you and this department will be here

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after you. We want officers to buy in and love their department and be committed to their job, but at the same time, we want well-rounded individuals who loves and spend time with their family.

**I was a DARE instructor.** When you start working with those kids, you think about those experiences. I had a 6-year-old child who died in a house fire and her mother came up to me at the funeral and told me how much DARE meant to her daughter. That sticks with you, and you know you’re making a difference.

**I had an elderly lady who was murdered.** The service to that family, when you see them years later and they thank you for what you did for them. That’s the service mentality of this job. It’s not all about putting the bad guys in jail, but what you do for the victims — how you help these people. I’ve been very fortunate and that’s what I’ll take with me from my job.

**The three Fs — faith, family and friends.** I believe faith in God is the number one thing that gets you through this career, at least for me personally. I can’t speak for everyone. Even though you see evil, good will prevail. I think that was a driving force for why I wanted to become an officer. It was to provide that good to fight that evil. I think that’s a driving force in a lot of officers, whether they know it or not. It is their belief in good versus their belief in evil. 🏞️

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